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VEST VIRGINIA, MAY 30, 1929

GRADUATES

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NATURE NOTES

This week the specimens in the geology exhibit in the window of the Royal Drug Stores on Main Street are Royal Drug Stores on Main Street are pieces of what the books call crinoid pieces of what the books call crinoid a word derived from the Greek word a word derived from the Greek word Krinon, a lily. Those fossils are known that the bave the

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JOHN BRADSHAW

The Address of Prof. G. D. McNeill at the Grave of John Bradshaw at Huntersville, May 19, 1929.

We are come today to set a marker at a tomb, and by the act of assembling here in a reverent sort of way, do whatever of honor we may do to the memory of John Bradshaw, soldier of the Revolution. We do not honor John Bradshaw because of the name he bore, but because of his achievements. Since we deem his deeds meritorious, it seems fitting that upon this occasion we refresh our minds somewhat in matters per-

taining to his history.

John Bradshaw was born in 1759, February 2nd. His birthplace is un-Tradition has it that he known. was born in England. If this is true he was brought to America in his infancy, for it is rather well established that the Bradshaws were established in the Colony of Virginia in 1760. The original Bradshaw plantation was some fifteen miles from what is now McDowell, Virginia. It was then in Augusta county, but the location is now within the borders of Highland and very near the Pendleton county line.

Young Bradshaw appears to have spent his boyhood on this plantation. At the outbreak of the Revolution in April, 1775, he was sixteen years of With the land

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It appears that Bradshaw did no military service in 1780. The explanation of this may be that he had just married Nancy McNamie and young Bradshaw devoted the year 1780 to the erection of a new log house on the South Branch plantation.

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With the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga in the autumn of 1777, the British abandoned hope of conquering the northern colonies, and it was determined to shift the war to the south where many of the inhabitants were loyal to the British Crown. accordance with this plan a British fleet and army captured Savannah, Georgia, in 1778. In the course of the military operations of 1778-79-80 Georgia and South Carolina were almost completely subdued. In the autumn of 1780 the British determined to inaugurate an extensive campaign early in 1781. By this plan, Lord Cornwallis, then commanding the British forces in the South was to move northward through North Caro- secon lina and Virginia. He expected to drive the American army ahead of

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north and leave an enemy army behind him or he must turn southward in pursuit of Green. He elected to proceed northward through North Carolina and Virginia. Meantime Arnold who had been bottled up at Portsmouth received reinforcements

Arnold who had been bottled up at Portsmouth received reinforcements and he returned to Richmond. The armies of Cornwallis and Arnold were united at Richmond on May 20, 1781. And in justice to Lord Corn-

wallis we must mention here that his first official act after assuming command of the combined armies was to

dismiss Arnold and notify the British high command that he would serve no nation that forced him to

associate with traitors. Cornwallis immediately began a series of raids.

On one occasion Tarleton with his dragoons moved in this direction as

far as Charlottesville and even threat-

region. Again the Virginians rallied

in defense of their firesides, and for a second time John Bradshaw respond-

ed to the call. Under pressure of his rapidly gathering enemies, Cornwallis

moved down to the sea where a British fleet might aid him, and entrenched himself

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north and leave an enemy army behind him or he must turn southward in pursuit of Green. He elected to proceed northward through North Carolina and Virginia. Meantime Arnold who had been bottled up at Portsmouth received reinforcements and he returned to Richmond. The

Portsmouth received reinforcements and he returned to Richmond. The armies of Cornwallis and Arnold were united at Richmond on May 20, 1781. And in justice to Lord Corn-

wallis we must mention here that his first official act after assuming com-

mand of the combined armies was to dismiss Arnold and notify the Brit-

ish high command that he would serve no nation that forced him to

associate with traitors. Cornwallis immediately began a series of raids.

On one occasion Tarleton with his dragoons moved in this direction as

far as Charlottesville and even threat-

region. Again the Virginians rallied

in defense of their firesides, and for a second time John Bradshaw respond-

ed to the call. Under pressure of his

rapidly gathering enemies, Cornwallis moved down to the sea where a Brit-

ish fleet might aid him, and entrenched himself.

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After the Revolution, Bradshaw remained in Highland for some twenty years. His children, four sons and four daughters, were reared there. Evidently he prospered. Tradition has it that he took some chances in a lottery and won the grand prize of several thousand dollars. Early in the last century, probcalled ably about 1803, he left the old plan-

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It is reasonable to concede that while serving as an Indian scout he passed this way and was pleased with the country. He acquired an immense property in this section. From available information it appears that he owned practically all of the land from Dilleys Mill- and Minnehaha Springs to the Forks of Beaver Creek. This included all the lands about Huntersville and down Knapps Creek to the Joe Buzzard farm.

Of his sons none but William has descendants living in the county. William Bradshaw married Jane Hickman and resided at the Charley Moore farm on Browns Creek. From him descended some branches of the Waugh, Moore, McLaughlin and Nottingham families. Nancy, daugh ter of John Bradshaw, married Levi Cackley of Millpoint, and the Cackleys of Stamping Creek, are descendants. Margaret Bradshaw married John Gwin of Virginia. This marriage connects the Gwin and certain McLaughlin families with the Bradshaws. Elizabeth Bradshaw married Samuel Hogsett and the Hogsetts of Pocahontas county are Bradshaw descendants.

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Dood on the Side of Isaac Barlow's residence here in Huntersville. Now, my friends, while it is very appropriate that we assemble as we have, all must realize how futile, after all, are our efforts at honoring John Bradshaw. John Bradshaw in his lifetime builded his own monument more sublime and more enduring than any we may rear. On that October day in the very long ago when he stood on the bogland at the mouth of the James and watched the shattered battallions of Cornwallis march by and saw the Stars and Stripes lifted triumphant in the sky, John Bradshaw and thousands of the like of him set a marker that will endure long after this marble we set today has crumbled into dust. aided in the establishment of a new nation consecrated to the principles of human liberty, and so long as liberty and equality survive upon the earth John Bradshaw shall not want for monument.

And while we stand here today above his ashes, we should remind ourselves that the greatest honor we may do him; the greatest honor we

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And while we stand here today above his ashes, we should remind ourselves that the greatest honor we may do him; the greatest honor we may do ourselves, and the greatest blessing we may bequeath to those who come after us must be in our resolution that since he risked his life in order that our flag be lifted on high we will so live as to keep that flag unsullied, resolve that since he risked so much to establish a government by the people, we will do all that we can to direct the destinies of this Republe that America may ever be the home of the free.

*Note—From the records of the Circuit Clerk's office, the date of John Bradshaw's death was December 30, 1834.

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